I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on _____August 15, 2006

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 2152

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869B-016600US Client Ref. No.: HAL-ID 154; 340101961US01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naoko IWAMI, et al.

Application No.: 09/742,157

Filed: December 19, 2000

For: GUARANTEED DATA ACCESS SPEED OF A STORAGE SYSTEM

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 9696

Examiner:

Lan Dait Truong

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2152

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 2152

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 16, 2005 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.